GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2713
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016
Rice Fortification Programme in Odisha Schools
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programme of rice fortification being implemented to improve the nutritional deficiency among the school children under Mid Day Meal Scheme in Gajapati District of Odisha;
(b) whether the Government is considering to take forward the said programme to the other parts of the country and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard and programme is likely to be introduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): Government of Odisha in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) implemented a pilot project on fortification of rice with iron for Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme in Gajapati district of Odisha from 2012-13. The project covered 97790 children in the age group of 6-14 years. The State Government has intimated that the rice fortification project in Gajapati district has been beneficial from the nutrition and anemia point of view. Based on the impact evaluation of the project, Government of Odisha has sustained the rice fortification project in Gajapati out of State budget and cooperated with WFP for upscaling multi micro nutrient fortification in Dhenkanal district and central kitchen of Cuttack.
(b) & (c): At present, there is no proposal for introduction of fortification under Mid Day Meal Scheme in the Ministry. However, the MDM Guidelines provide for serving a wholesome and nutritious meal which should have 450 calories and 12 gram of protein for children of primary schools and 700 calories and 20 gram of protein for upper primary schools. Further, the States have been advised to use double fortified salt (i.e. containing iodine and iron) in preparing mid day meal.
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